

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TEGUCI 03096 190107Z

17

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SSO-00 SY-05 AID-05 DHA-02

SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 /066 W

----- 123137

O 182056Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0662

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEGUCIGALPA 3096

FOR SCS AND ARA/CEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, CASC, HO (CYPHER, MICHAEL J.)

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT: DEATH OF USC PRIEST

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 3074 AND PREVIOUS

1. BROTHER TIMOTHY OF FR. CYPHER'S ORDER CALLED THIS MORNING TO ADVISE THAT CYPHER'S PARENTS HAD BEEN NOTIFIED BY THE PROVINCIAL AND HAD AGREED THAT HE SHOULD BE BURIED LOCALLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS OWN LAST WISHES. FR. EMILIO COOK, CYPHER'S CO-WORKER AND MEMBER OF SAME ORDER, SHOULD ARRANGE FUNERAL.

2. CONSOFF INFORMED FR. COOK BY TELEGRAPH (ONLY COMMUNICATION WITH GUALACO) THAT MILITARY AUTHORITIES INSTRUCTED TO TRANSPORT BODY THERE FROM JUTICALPA FOR BURIAL ACCORDING TO PARENT'S WISHES. DIFFICULTY OF TRANSPORTATION TO GUALACO PRECLUDES ATTENDANCE BY EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE AT FURNERAL.

3. COL. MADRID CONFIRMED THAT GOVERNMENT WOULD ARRANGE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TEGUCI 03096 190107Z

IMMEDIATE TRANSFER OF BODY DIRECTLY TO GUALACO.

4. ACCORDING TO ARCHBISHOP'S SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT HAS REFUSED PERMISSION FOR COMMEMORATIVE MASS AT CATHEDRAL OR SERVICE AT AIRPORT UPON ARRIVAL OF OTHER BODIES AT TEGUCIGALPA, APPARENTLY FOR FEAR OF PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS. SHOULD ANY FUTURE MEMORIAL SERVICE BE PERMITTED FOR FATHER CYPHER EMBASSY WILL SEND REPRESENTATIVE, AS APPROPRIATE.

5. AMBASSADOR TALKED TODAY WITH ACTING FONMIN AND EXPRESSED U.S. EXPECTATIONS THAT A FULL REPORT ON CIRCUMSTANCES OF FR. CYPHER'S DEATH WOULD SHORTLY BE FORTHCOMING AND THAT THOSE RESPONSIBLE WOULD BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE. CONSOFF IN MEETING LAST NIGHT WITH COL. MADRID ALSO EMPHASIZED SAME POINTS.

6. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS FR. EMILIO COOK RETURNED TO GUALACO EARLY THIS WEEK TOGETHER WITH USC FAMILY OF LAY TEACHER FOR HIGH SCHOOL THERE. HIS RETURN WAS WITH PERMISSION OF GOVERNMENT BUT AGAINST ADVICE OF CHURCH OFFICIALS. A GROUP OF SIX OTHER LAY WORKERS RECRUITED BY FR. COOK FOR TEMPORARY VOLUNTEER WORK IN GUALACO HAVE ARRIVED IN TEGUCIGALPA BUT HAVE BEEN ADVISED BY THE CHURCH NOT TO GO AT THIS TIME. CHURCH OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED THAT HIGH VISABILITY OF SUCH A GROUP OF FOREIGNERS WOULD LEAD TO FURTHER MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND ACCUSATIONS.

7. FR. STEPHEN GROSS HAS ALSO BEEN ALLOWED RETURN TO HIS WORK IN EL PROGRESO, YORO. CHURCH WOULD HAVE PREFERRED HE WAIT LONGER BUT FEARED DEMONSTRATIONS BY CAMPESINOS THERE DEMANDING HIS RETURN MIGHT CAUSE MORE TROUBLE THAN HIS RETURN.

8. EMBASSY WILL VERIFY DETAILS OF FR. CYPHER'S BURIAL AND REPORT.
SANCHEZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TEGUCI03096
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750249-0881
From: TEGUCIGALPA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750740/aaaabkcf.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 TEGUCIGALPA 3074
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <23 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SITUATION REPORT: DEATH OF USC PRIEST
TAGS: CDES, CASC, HO, (CYPHER, MICHAEL J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006